

PENINSULA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANNING ORGANIZATION (PRTPO)

The Peninsula Regional Transportation Planning Organization (PRTPO) represents four counties — Clallam, Jefferson, Kitsap,* and Mason Counties. The area is characterized by the Olympic National Park, historic small towns, forests, an alpine mountain range, the only rain forest in the contiguous United States, managed timber areas, rivers, bays, ocean shorelines, and the Strait of Juan de Fuca. The PRTPO — covering 4,190 square miles — is located in the northwest corner of Washington State. The peninsula reaches farther out into the North Pacific than any other point of the lower 48 states.



Olympic Mountains

Photograph from Woldfrom theWeb.com



Pacific Ocean & coastline from Rialto Beach

Major Transportation Facilities:

The geology of the area limits access to and from the Peninsula to three significant transportation facilities: SR 104 (including the Hood Canal Floating Bridge), US 101 Loop, and SR 3. Other critical facilities and services in this region are the four counties' transit systems, eight Washington State Ferry (WSF) routes, and the privately-owned Blackball ferry route linking Port Angeles to Victoria, B.C. SR 16, including the Tacoma Narrows Bridge located just outside the PRTPO area, also provides a critical link to the Kitsap and Olympic Peninsulas. More than 15,000

vehicles cross the Hood Canal Bridge every weekday and nearly 20,000 cross on weekend days.

Demographics:

The population of this four-county RTPO was 386,700 in 2005. This represents 6.2 percent of the state population. In Clallam (22.3 percent) and Jefferson (22.4 percent) counties the 65-years-and-older population is nearly twice the state average of 11.4 percent.

	Population (2005)	Persons Per Square Mile	Median Household Income (1997)
Washington State:	6,256,400	94.0	\$41,715
Clallam County:	66,800	37.0	\$41,108
Jefferson County:	27,600	14.5	\$41,801
Kitsap County:	240,400	587.0	\$49,676
Mason County:	51,900	51.4	\$41,554

*Note: Kitsap County is a member of both PSRC and the Peninsula RTPO. Located between the Olympic Peninsula and the metropolitan Central Puget Sound region, Kitsap County provides a significant access corridor between these two areas. Additionally, many Kitsap residents who commute to the Seattle metropolitan area are affected by PSRC's transportation planning.